



Hollister
"Service, Pride and Integrity" **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

PRESS RELEASE

HOLLISTER POLICE ARREST VIOLENT SUSPECT NEAR SCHOOL

HOLLISTER - January 30, 2009 - On January 29, 2009 at approximately 12:21 p.m. Hollister police officers responded to a report of a suspicious person in front of Rancho San Justo Middle School, at the intersection of Rancho Drive and E. Park Street.

Upon contact, the suspect, identified as 33-year-old Raymundo Avila, began to exhibit symptoms of being under the influence of a controlled substance. As officers attempted to detain Avila, he assaulted one officer and violently resisted arrest. One of the officers discharged his TASER at Avila, with little effect.

Four more officers responded to an emergency call for assistance. After a violent struggle, Avila was finally handcuffed and taken transported to Hazel Hawkins Hospital for medical evaluation. There, he resisted officers and medical personnel trying to attend to him. He was eventually treated for minor injuries, released and then booked into the San Benito County Jail.

One officer sustained minor injuries during Avila's violent resistance. The officer was treated and released from the hospital that same day.

Rancho San Justo Middle School students were not harmed or contacted by the suspect.

The Hollister Police Department is investigating to see if Avila is related to an incident the day before at Cerra Vista School. The suspect in that case approached a student, who reported the suspect's presence at the campus.

The first officer to arrive at each of the incidents was one of Hollister Police Department's School Beat Officers. The Hollister Police Department School Beat Officers are funded through a partnership between the Hollister School District and the City of Hollister in an effort to enhance safety at district schools. Their beat assignments are to patrol the school campuses and surrounding areas.

Witnesses to either incident are requested to contact Officer Carlos Rodriguez at (831) 636-4330.

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Copies to: City Manager
Press Log
Watch Commander
Briefing
Case File

Operations Commander
Support Services Commander
Detective Bureau